

20000129.qrp v01_n715.qrl.20000129

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 19:03:10 EST

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1715

QRP-L Digest 1715

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [61542] KB3ELW QRV?
by dave gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
- 2) [61543] Re: Attn QRPers - DX convention in Vancouver, B.C.
by Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>
- 3) [61544] RE: KIT: NOGAPIG - Putting the PIG on a Diet!
by Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
- 4) [61545] Re: My 6M ignorance
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 5) [61546] Re: New way to catch the Fox
by "Bob Helms" <af5z@inetport.com>
- 6) [61547] Re: FT-100 knob for the K2 (no screw)
by WB3LGC@aol.com
- 7) [61548] Re: Construction practices
by Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
- 8) [61549] Re: My 6M ignorance
by "Stuart Satrun" <kc8lah@hotmail.com>
- 9) [61550] Re: [61493] Prayer to St. Max, Patron of Ham Radio Ops
by Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@netcom.com>
- 10) [61551] 10-minute timer
by "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkx.utcc.utk.edu>
- 11) [61552] Re: Snakes & QRP outdoors, Why we have the problem
by Nv4t@aol.com
- 12) [61553] OT: Old Call Book Lookup Assistance Requested
by "Ron Smith" <resmith666@uswest.net>
- 13) [61554] test. don't read
by lenny wintfeld <w2bvh@home.com>
- 14) [61555] Re: My 6M ignorance
by Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 15) [61556] Re: ANTENNAS... out of the bag... TUNERS
by S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
- 16) [61557] Taming The Wild PiG, Ch. 10 NOGAPIG that is! ***Important PIG MO
D***
by Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
- 17) [61558] Re: Loop Antenna
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 18) [61559] Re: HW-7 Mods
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>

- 19) [61560] Re: Construction
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 20) [61561] Questions
by Robert B Boughner <notajock@juno.com>
- 21) [61562] Re; Construction
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 22) [61563] Re: 6 Meters
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 23) [61564] Re: Headphones & Hearing Aids
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 24) [61565] Re: Construction
by tbessler@OregonVOS.net (Tom Bessler)
- 25) [61566] Re: My 6M ignorance
by Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
- 26) [61567] TS-450S or TS-690S
by Corky Kirk <w6ors@juno.com>
- 27) [61568] Wooden QSL Card
by QRP <qrp@email.com>
- 28) [61569] psk31 setup
by "Mark Paley" <mpaley@wcnet.org>
- 29) [61570] Re: psk31 setup
by "Pastor-kc1di" <ELBC@PIVOT.NET>
- 30) [61571] psk31 responses
by "Mark Paley" <mpaley@wcnet.org>
- 31) [61572] Re: 6 Meters
by "Brian K. Miller" <millerbk@lancnews.infi.net>
- 32) [61573] Small Loop Antenna vs Efficiency
by John R Kirby <n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
- 33) [61574] Antennas - Small Transmitting Loops
by jbhenson@zebra.net (James Bartley Henson III)
- 34) [61575] 6 meters
by Joseph Trombino Jr <joebarb@wilmington.net>
- 35) [61576] Rotary Dipole for SIX and TEN
by John R Kirby <n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
- 36) [61577] FS: QRP and misc items
by "Charles Mabbott" <crmabbott@mediaone.net>
- 37) [61578] Re: Construction
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 38) [61579] Re: Snakes & QRP outdoors, Why we have the problem
by david fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>
- 39) [61580] Re: 6 Meters and rumors
by "David Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
- 40) [61581] Re: Construction practices
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 41) [61582] Re: Ref. 160M CW Contest
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 42) [61583] Construction: cutting PC boards
by n5ib@juno.com

- 43) [61584] Re: psk31 setup
by Bruce Grubbs N7CEE <n7cee@arrl.net>
- 44) [61585] Re: Ref. 160M CW Contest
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- 45) [61586] BC, WA, OR, CA CW QRP; QRZ?
by "K7FD-N7SG" <k7fd@arrl.net>
- 46) [61587] 3.710 mhz
by John Raynsford <al7jk@gci.net>
- 47) [61588] Denoting fractional power with cw
by "Alex" <aturner13@mindspring.com>
- 48) [61589] [Fwd: Stanford Sets another UHF Distance Record with Mars]
by Thomas Jennings <jennings@eznet.net>
- 49) [61590] Edsyn Soldering Station on sale at www.radioshack.com
by "Dave Ek" <ekdave@earthlink.net>
- 50) [61591] Other characters in cw
by "Scott E. Olitsky" <solitsky@acsu.buffalo.edu>
- 51) [61592] RE: Other characters in cw
by "Mike D." <hrg@megsinet.net>
- 52) [61593] 160M Miles per watt K2 assault
by Jim Hale <kj5tf@yahoo.com>
- 53) [61594] Re: Other characters in cw
by Jeff Davis <jeff@n9avg.org>
- 54) [61595] Where did S&S Engineering go?
by "GARY McCAUGHEY" <MAIL4GARY@worldnet.att.net>
- 55) [61596] FOXHUNT:Team Scores
by Bruce Ratray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
- 56) [61597] Re: Edsyn Soldering Station on sale at www.radioshack.com
by Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
- 57) [61598] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
by "Richard Brummer, K2JQ" <obvious@bestweb.net>
- 58) [61599] TiCK Keyer
by Richard S McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 59) [61600] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 60) [61601] RE: Wooden QSL Card
by "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
- 61) [61602] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
by K2UD@aol.com
- 62) [61603] 1st QSO using TiCK keyer
by Richard S McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 63) [61604] Re: Other characters in cw
by Richard S McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 64) [61605] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
by "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
- 65) [61606] Re: Antennas - Small Transmitting Loops
by "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
- 66) [61607] PROP: Noisy weekend on planet Earth
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>

- 67) [61608] OCF Wires (again)
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 68) [61609] Re: Headphones & Hearing Aids
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>
- 69) [61610] FS: MFJ Tuner
by K2UD@aol.com
- 70) [61611] 6 Meters
by Joe Mikuckis <k3chp@erols.com>
- 71) [61612] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainet.net.com>
- 72) [61613] Re: Edsyn Soldering Station on sale at www.radioshack.com
by "Richard Matthews" <prm@hiwaay.net>

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 18:03:03 -0600
From: dave gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61542] KB3ELW QRV?
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20000128180303.00a35c40@bbs.galilei.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Mike,

I got your inquiry about the St. Louis Tuner schematic but your e-mail address is bouncing.

Drop me an another e-mail and we'll try again.

de Dave, NF0R nf0r@slacc.com

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 17:10:16 -0800
From: Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>
To: paule@sfu.ca
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61543] Re: Attn QRPers - DX convention in Vancouver, B.C.
Message-ID: <38923DF8.E77BB22F@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Paul Erickson wrote:

>
> Hi there,
>
> In case you needed any other excuse to come visit one of the five
> most beautiful cities in the world, here it is:
>
> Subject: DX Convention in Vancouver Canada

Hi, Paul...

We will be in Vancouver the last week of April. Are there any QRP goings-on at that time?

72 de Jim - AD6CW

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 20:14:43 -0500
From: Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
To: "Qrp1_Submit (E-mail)" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, "klqrp_submit (E-mail)" <klqrp@waterw.com>
Subject: [61544] RE: KIT: NOGAPIG - Putting the PIG on a Diet!
Message-ID: <66FCE0D1DF76D311913800805F6D0FA35F3038@MAILSERVER1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

One of the NOGA team members reminded me that when we originally sat down to discuss features that we realized that some users would want a bare bones capability that basically would give them the feature of a voltmeter without having the voltmeter with them. The PIG is smaller and cheaper and smarter than a voltmeter!

On page 12 of the NoGaPig Assmebly and Test Manual there is a section called "Bypass the Voltage Monitor". We have placed a trace labeld "SW2" on the board that can be wired with a toggle switch. If this switch is closed monitoring is normal and the 4-7 mA mentioned occurs. But if you Open the optional SW2 switch location then the complete voltage monitor capability is disconnected. Zero mA is drawn in this case. So if you really want to squeeze out the mAs then keep the monitor turned off except when you really want to use it to do a manual check. The option is yours.

Give it a try if you're interested.

Sam AE4GX

>>>>snip>>>

> We have been retesting the PIGs that NOGA members have built and are
> seeing about 6 to 7 mA current draw during monitoring mode when the
> supply voltage is above the low voltage minimum.
>
> Several users have brought to our attention that the PIG uses more current
> in a monitor mode that was expected based on previously published
> information. We have checked this out and agree.
>
>>>snip>>>

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 19:27:44 -0600
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61545] Re: My 6M ignorance
Message-ID: <003501bf69f8\$0ed66240\$05987b7b@CSS0048.bergenbrunswick.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Arje, this may vary by locale, but here in North Texas, often good band
openings have occurred about sundown and lasted till well after dark. Not
all of them though....

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA
e-mail to: dandooley@pipeline.com
May Goddes love blest ye alle

-----Original Message-----

From: Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Friday, January 28, 2000 4:55 PM
Subject: Re: My 6M ignorance

>A question that I haven't seen the answer to in the ongoing discussion:
>Is 6 m a day-time only band like 10 m?
>
>73,
>--

>Arjen Raateland
>OH2ZAZ
>
>AX.25: OH2ZAZ@OH2RBI.FIN.EU
>Email: oh2zaz@arrl.net
>

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 19:38:07 -0600
From: "Bob Helms" <af5z@inetport.com>
To: "QRP-L Reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [61546] Re: New way to catch the Fox
Message-ID: <200001290156.TAA11944@admin.inetport.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OHH, No Dan - - There's a bunch of vigilante DXers DFinG your antennas for QRMing the DX! Keep the power low and work QRPers for a while so they don't find you. (;-]

I find it much easier to work 40 Meter SSB DX by working split - one VFO around 7060 or so and the other at 7210 or so but I can't seem to remember which one to transmit on!! There's few things worse than having a DX station tell you "You're out of band mate!".

Just had to throw my hat in the ring on that one!

72,
Bob Helms, AF5Z
af5z@inetport.com

Original Msg Extract:

New way to work the QRP-L Fox....
My eyes happened to fall on the external VFO for the Omni C that I was using as I had used it to work FH land about 30 minutes before the Fox hunt. Yep, it was still on split and I had been transmitting at around 7.023...

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 21:13:58 EST
From: WB3LGC@aol.com
To: radman@best.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [61547] Re: FT-100 knob for the K2 (no screw)
Message-ID: <d9.905cd2.25c3a6e6@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 1/27/00 8:45:14 PM Eastern Standard Time, radman@best.com writes:

> In
> terms of locating a replacement, it's a metric thread - not likely to be
> found in the parts bin at Ace Hardware.

If you ever need hard to find metric screws and other mechanical parts, try Small Parts, Inc. (800) 220-4242 or <http://www.smallparts.com/> I havn't seen what the web site has but they have a nice catalog I have ordered "small" parts and tools from...

73, Steve

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 19:28:21 -0700
From: Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61548] Re: Construction practices
Message-ID: <38925045.2C06100E@rgfn.epcc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Heavy duty paper cutter will do just fine, and does not seem to damage the blade, for occasional use. Plus the board is accurately marked so you can make sure the line of cut is clean. I noticed that it seemed to be less dulling cutting the boards than large amounts of paper.

--

"The more I see of the representatives of the people,
the more I admire my dogs."

letter from Count d'Orsay to John Foster 1850

Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC 3618, SOWP 1064M NARTE-NCT2
(also w5xe@juno.com El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 02:42:24 GMT
From: "Stuart Satrun" <kc8lah@hotmail.com>

To: dandooley@pipeline.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [61549] Re: My 6M ignorance
Message-ID: <20000129024224.82062.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Arje...here in SE Michigan band openings are frequent...however they close shortly after I switch antennas and tune up...however I once contacted KA8LGI (in the mobile) 100 watts..1.5 miles away..startling! Great band..but don't doze off.

73

stu satrun kw8k

>From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
>Reply-To: dandooley@pipeline.com
>To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
>Subject: Re: My 6M ignorance
>Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 19:27:44 -0600

>

>Arje, this may vary by locale, but here in North Texas, often good band openings have occurred about sundown and lasted till well after dark. Not all of them though....

>

>Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA
> e-mail to: dandooley@pipeline.com
>May Goddes love blest ye alle

>

>-----Original Message-----

>From: Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
>Date: Friday, January 28, 2000 4:55 PM
>Subject: Re: My 6M ignorance

>

>

> >A question that I haven't seen the answer to in the ongoing discussion:
> >Is 6 m a day-time only band like 10 m?

> >

> >73,

> >--

> >Arjen Raateland

> >OH2ZAZ

> >

> >AX.25: OH2ZAZ@OH2RBI.FIN.EU

> >Email: oh2zaz@arrl.net

> >

>

Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 19:09:43 -0800 (PST)
From: Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@netcom.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61550] Re: [61493] Prayer to St. Max, Patron of Ham Radio Ops
Message-ID: <200001290309.TAA21628@netcom.com>

To add politics on top of religion, be aware that St. Kolbe is already the patron saint of the anti-abortion movement.

This is NOT the place for discussion about that, but I think people should be aware.

73, doug

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 22:18:01 -0500 (EST)
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, gqrp@onelist.com
Subject: [61551] 10-minute timer
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.10001282210100.3470-1000000@larry.cas.utk.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

After a note on an old article I did for QST back in Sept, 1980, on a 10-minute timer (that just won't quit) using 2 556 (or 4 555) chips, I have received a number of notes requesting the schematic. So I retrieved the old diagram from the article and placed it at my web site. Since the index will not be updated until Feb. 1, the direct URL is <http://www.cebik.com/10mt.html>

If I put anything more than the diagram there, I might violate the copyright which belongs to QST. I still have the original, which is built into my operating table console.

The 20-year old circuit may need a bit of updating for the newer versions of an old friend (the NE-555--as it was originally called), but the function division of the circuit may give you a few ideas for projects of your own.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL	/\	/\	*	/	/	/	Tel: (423) 938-6335
1434 High Mesa Drive	/	\	\	/	/	/	
Knoxville, Tennessee	/\	\	\	/	/	/	http://www.cebik.com
37938-4443 USA	/	\	\	/	/	/	e-mail: cebik@utk.edu

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 22:39:33 EST
From: Nv4t@aol.com
To: kb8tt@ncweb.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61552] Re: Snakes & QRP outdoors, Why we have the problem
Message-ID: <67.117b6bf.25c3baf5@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It's the straight skinny!!

Hooah, nv4t LTC ret.

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 20:48:53 -0700
From: "Ron Smith" <resmith666@uswest.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61553] OT: Old Call Book Lookup Assistance Requested
Message-ID: <039d01bf6a0b\$c4ae3940\$0200000a@NET.uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Does anyone have a 1978, 1979, and/or 1980 Call Book?

If you do, would you please look up KA4INY or KN4INY. I am looking for the listing for the listing for Ronald Edward Smith in Jacksonville, Florida for that time. I am also still trying to figure out the year I was first licensed and I am sure it was the year just previous to when I was listed in the annual Call Book - around 1978.

Thanks for any help friends...

72 to all...

Ron Smith - KD7VD - Boise, Idaho

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 23:03:58 +0200
From: lenny wintfeld <w2bvh@home.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61554] test. don't read
Message-ID: <3892043E.6DEBB35A@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Test test W2BVH

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 22:33:33 -0600
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61555] Re: My 6M ignorance
Message-ID: <38926D9D.F7807C61@swbell.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Arjen Raateland wrote:

>
> A question that I haven't seen the answer to in the ongoing discussion:
> Is 6 m a day-time only band like 10 m?

Contacts by E-skip, Aurora, and meteor scatter can happen at any hour and frequently occur at night. F layer contacts by which coast to coast or dx contacts are made, act like ten meters. The layer disappears when the sun goes down and international dx contacts dry up for the day.

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 23:27:53 -0500
From: S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
To: k8cv@netzero.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [61556] Re:ANTENNAS... out of the bag... TUNERS
Message-ID: <38926C49.A2E6C080@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"simple" is relative. A lot can be learned from the 160m experience. Consider that due to practical limitations, most antennas for 160m exist in considerable compromise relative to circumstances easily achieved at 10m or 20m, (radiation efficiency, T/O angle...) esp. regarding DX. An inverted-L with radials is rather complicated mechanically compared to a simple dipole, but is a good compromise considering space/height practicalities. The simple dipole at 250' would blow the "L" away big time.

With a bit of practical experience we can make some pretty good judgement calls to achieve specific goals. For instance, for the general ragchew-type a low "near-vertical incidence" antler fed without much regard for high efficiency energy transfer, is just fine. For those who want to reach out and touch some DX, however, the challenge becomes more demanding and interesting.

A robust antenna placed at optimal height and heading is a delight to experience. A tuner can make a significant difference in energy transfer, (esp. TX) and esp. when conditions are variable as in the field. Now that a really compact, light-weight "Z-Match" is readily available to buy or build, I wouldn't even consider going out without one, especially if I were going to FYBO for score!

That would change, no doubt, if radio was a lower priority consideration in an outing.

72

AA1MY

=====

Walt Amos wrote:

> There it is! THE TRUTH is out !! There is NO secret RF gain in any antenna !
> What, this can't be TRUE ah, but it is, gain in one
> direction is loss in another! Simplicity is the KEY to portable operation
> and Michael has hit the nail on the head! Read it a weep, you have been
> carrying that tuner for NOTHING! Now read again, below, the proper portable

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 23:56:03 -0500
From: Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
To: "Qrp1_Submit (E-mail)" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, "klqrp_submit (E-mail)"

<klqrp@waterw.com>, "_AAAA_NOGA_onlist (E-mail)" <nogaqrp@qth.net>
Subject: [61557] Taming The Wild PiG, Ch. 10 NOGAPIG that is! ***Important PIG MO
D***
Message-ID: <66FCE0D1DF76D311913800805F6D0FA35F3043@MAILSERVER1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

The NOGA team has been working with several PIG buyers on a reported condition of false tripping of the SCR (ie overvoltage condition). The users were getting this false tripping when just hooking up to a normal voltage gell cell (approx. 12-13v). Well one of our own NOGA members built up his and had the same problem so we discussed by phone several options that I hadn't had the change to get to Don/K5KW yet. If we hadn't solved this morning then I'm sure Don would have gotten it on the next round.

This lengthy process shows the great diligence and determination of the QRPers out there looking for new "working" tools to use with their gear. Don and others namely BIGBOB97 have provided detailed information on their problem and helped greatly in eliminating various test paths.

For those that haven't build your PIG yet or have and are experiencing the problem described above add a 1uF or greater electrolytic across the output point where the rig would attach to the power PADS of the PIG. If no indication of falsing exists then the MOD should not be necessary but it will not hurt to do it as a precaution.

Thanks for your patience and understanding that these club kits (particularly the first) is a learning experience for us all.

BTW If you're reading this and wondering what a PIG is then check out the NOGA web page addressed below.

Don notes below give you an idea of the detail of his responses. Thanks again.

Sam Billingsley AE4GX Atlanta, GA
personal web page at <http://ae4gx.home.mindspring.com/>
North Georgia QRP Club web page at <http://www.qsl.net/nogaqrp/>

> -----Original Message-----
> From: K5KW@aol.com [SMTP:K5KW@aol.com]
> Sent: Friday, January 28, 2000 10:01 PM
> To: SBillingsley@usaninc.com
> Cc: Bob.Confrey@sciatl.com
> Subject: Taming The Wild PiG, Ch. 10
>
> YeeeHaw! Whoopeeeee!

>
> Success!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Doing the Happy Dance in Oklahoma!!
>
> THE WILD PIG HAS BEEN TAMED !!
>
> Hats off to Bob Confrey, WA1EDJ
>
> Sam,
>
> Bob's experimentation leading to his hanging a big capacitor across the
> 12v
> Plus and 12v Neg. buss pads at the output of the NoGaPiG has, indeed,
> solved
> the problem. We, the PiG and I, are wallowing in success after following
> Bob's lead.
>
> I tried a 220 mf electrolytic across the output and, to my amazement, the
> false triggering of the fuse stopped. Then I tried a 1 mf cap, and, as
> Bob
> suggested, it worked just as well. No more fuse tripping!!!
>
> BUT, just to be sure, I tried to get the PiG to fail by first setting the
> bench supply to 13.8 volts, the highest voltage I would intentionally
> apply
> to any of my QRP rigs. Then I proceeded to make connections to the PiG
> from
> the bench supply, using an aligator clip just touched to the PiG's power
> input lead, not clipped. Thus, connections were usually made with a wire
> sliding along the aligator clip, very sloppy. I MADE THESE SLOPPY
> CONNECTIONS
> 100 TIMES IN SUCCESSION WITHOUT FAILURE, waiting between each test for the
> 1
> mf cap to discharge to "0" volts.
>
> I noted a bonus from the 1 mf cap addition. Previously, once I had gotten
>
> the low voltage threshold properly configured, the LED would come on and
> start to glow dimly at 11.3 volts but wouldn't glow at full brilliance til
>
> 11.2 volts or slightly less. Now, with the 1 mf cap in place, when the
> 11.3v
> low voltage threshold is reached, the LED instantly lights to full
> brilliance
> and stays there til the voltage drops ridiculously low; down in the 6 or 7
>
> volt range from the bench supply.
>
> Then I tested for over-voltage protection as follows:

```

>
> Input      Condition When
> Voltage    Voltage Applied
>
> 12.0        Normal
> 13.8        Normal
> 15.28       Fuse trips occasionally
> 16.78       Fuse always trips
> 18.3        Fuse always trips
>
> The over voltage required to trip the fuse appears to be about ideal. (I
> couldn't run tests between 15.28 and 16.78 volts. I just took my bench
> supply's highest voltage output and added a "D" cell battery in series.
> The
> 18.3 volt test was with two "D" cells in series with the bench supply's
> max
> output.)
>
> The discussion about the PiG drawing a little more current than advertised
>
> also caught my eye, so I ran a few more tests.  Regardless of whether a
> 220
> mf cap or a 1 mf cap is used, the following (no-load) figures resulted.
>
> Input      Current
> Voltage    Drain
>
> 12.0        6 ma
> 13.8        7 ma
> 11.4        5.5 ma
> 11.28       23 ma (LED now lighted)
>
> I don't see the extra two or three milliamps current drain (above what was
>
> initially advertised) as all that relevant, unless someone is using a very
>
> small capacity battery and insists on having absolute minimum current
> drain.
>
> Bob, I believe that about wraps it up from this end. You mentioned that
> another kit was on its way to me.  Fine.  I will be happy to build myself
> another, and send you "the PiG that caused all the hullabaloo" for either
> further study, or for the old NoGa Archives! The only change to to this
> pig
> is my replacement of the 2N2907 with a 2N3906. The circuit trace got
> boogered
> up, and I didn't want to mess it up further by putting the original 2N2907
>
>

```


> back in it. All other parts are the originals.
>
> Thanks again for all your help, and the support of the NoGa team. Somehow
> I
> just knew we'd get to the bottom of this.
>
> 72,
>
> Don, K5KW
>
> "From Meadowlark Aerodrome on the rippling shores of Lake Eva, in the
> heart
> of the Morris-Boynton metroplex of east central Oklahoma, where every day
> is
> a sunny day".

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 23:57:41 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: Ade Weiss <aweiss@usd.edu>
Subject: [61558] Re: Loop Antenna
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.10.10001282329450.23158-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Ade,

I just thought that I would help you with the Memory Loss Problem:^^)

You mentioned The Brice Anderson, W9PNE Article in the QRP Quarterly Journal. The Article appeared in the October 1993 Issue on pages 4-6.

It is easy to find, Just look for the Issue with Bob Spidell, W6SKQ on the Cover. Bob was a long time QRPer and Contester. He had some interesting antennas in use at the time.

Brice Anderson, W9PNE PO BOX 14 Lancaster, IL 62855 is a long time QRPer and Antenna Expert. In addition to some of his work with the Copper Plumbing Loops, he also has published some interesting articles on the X-Beam Antenna.

I have personally worked Brice in many a qrp contest where he was using one of his indoor loops in the hallway of his house. Yes, on multi bands.

I know you know all of this, but these comments are also for those on the list who don't know Brice personally like we do.

He also mentioned a few others which are worth looking up for more info on the loops.

Ted Hart, W5QJR who won 2nd place in ARRL Antenna Contest with his loop.

Robert H. Jones CQ Magazine Dec 1991 & Jan 1992 One and two turn loops.

Gene Gardner, W9RWZ 160 Meter SSB using four turn eight foot dia loop.

I could not dig out the old magazines as most are in storage right now.

I am sure there are more, because I did not find the ones with the pictures that I remember:^^)

I can still remember the Loop that Brice brought to Dayton several years back. Might have been '86 but not sure. Anyway most everyone thought it was a big joke that he was about to play on us. Very Large Transmitting Capacitor on top as I recall. (Looked like at least 10 KW Rating :^)

Who would have thought that you could draw an arc off the antenna with only 5 Watts or less going into it!

On top of all that, It really worked. I recall Zack and I having fun on 80 cw with it from the room. Amazing what you can do with some pipe.

You mentioned something about 51 Foot Dia. Loop for 160 M., Sounds like a whole roll of 1" Copper Water Pipe to me. Maybe Suspend it from a Flag Pole or Better yet a Telegraph Pole with a HV Insulator on top and use Armstrong Rotor power.

Maybe Find some Commercial Vacuum Caps for tuning?

Might sound crazy, but you don't know til you give it a try.^^)

"Back in the hole" as Ron (KU7Y) would say.

Sir George, The First :^^)

72 ES

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Grid Square FM19mb 76.94 W - 39.06 N Silver Spring, MD 20904 QRPea.A.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 00:23:18 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61559] Re: HW-7 Mods
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.10.10001282358120.23158-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

The Best Mod that I ever heard about for a HW-7 was to Remove the Circuit Board and Install one of Dave's Kits in its place. :^)

O.K., I was only kidding. I think that I traded mine for another kit for my collection. Which is probably still unbuilt. :^)

Actually I don't think there were a great number of mods for the HW-7 as I recall most were for the HW-8 & HW-9. Fred Bonavita, W5QJM and later Mike Bryce, WB8VGE had books out on the HW-8 Modifications.

I believe Mike still has some for sale. Also reasonably sure that the Michigan QRP Club has some in stock for sale. Contact N8CQA or K8DD.
Buck Switzer <n8cqa@tir.com> Hank Kohl <k8dd@tir.com>

One tip before you start into work on the HW-7 or HW-8 Modifications Project. Carefully Clean it up and check the Soldering workmanship. Yes, even if you built it origionally. Might want to add lock washers where mounting to cabinet to help the ground plane. I recall mine sounding like a broken bottle when ever you touched it. :^)

Oh, Yes! Be Very Careful with the Main Tuning Capacitor. They Have a tendency to shed their plates and They are Nearly Impossiable to find a replacement now days. I have fixed some with epoxy glue on the fibre insulator part, but I never got a chance to really try the "Special Solder" to put the plates back on the rotor. One is "Solder-It" that you often see at ham fests. A paste type solder. The other That I wanted to try was a special alloy brazing rod that also is Demonstrated at Ham fests. You know the one where they punch a hole in the bottom of the Aluminum soda can and then proceed to repair it with the Special Brazing rod stuff. Don't know what the kids did with my supply, but it sure was neat stuff and fixed some strange things. Never did work on the lawn mower housing though. My torch just wasn't hot enuff for that job. :^)

GL and Give us a report on the list with your results. I am sure that

others will be interested in hearing about it.

Sir George, The First :^)

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Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 00:47:45 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tk@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61560] Re: Construction
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.10.10001290023440.23158-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Seems Like I am doing a lot of comments for the list tonight.

Nice to find some real QRP Topics on the list.

I have used a couple of methods for cutting PC Board in the past with varying degrees of success.

Mostly, It depends on what you are trying to make.

If it is just a single piece of PCB for a project, I generally clamp it down on the work bench and use the Hand Hacksaw on it. I like those Carbide Coated Blades for fast work and long wear.

One very important word of Caution! Before you begin Cutting/Hacking on PC Boards. Put on some Eye Protection and Nose Protection. That stuff is not good for your eyes or nose.

This is even more important if you decide to use method two. Which is the Sabre Saw with Metal Cutting Blades.

ALWAYS CLAMP YOUR WORK! The edges can be smoothed with a file and/or an electric Sander with Emory Paper on it. I have also run the edges on the grinder to neaten them up.

One thing that I found handy was to make up a bench clamp with a Steel Edge on the top side to act as a saw guide. Just make up the clamp sandwich and put some 3/8 or 1/2 inch bolts thru it to hold it firmly in place then use those big squeeze grip quickie clamps to fasten it to the work bench, saw horse or whatever.

The Clamping jig really comes in handy when you are trying to make several pieces the same size. Like whan you want to make a PCB Cabinet and have it come out square. :^)

Oh yes, the shop vac is real handy to have running when you use the power tools. That fiberglass dust goes everywhere. If the Wx is nice, you can do it in the back yard on the picnic table.

I have heard that a Table Saw does a real nice job. Maybe one day I will add one to the shop. I have been told that it works best with the blade on backwards!

Hmmm, I never thought to try it with my Makita Cordless power saw. My guess is that it would be super.

Bet the Router would work too.

Don't forget the Clamps!!

Don't forget The Eye & Nose Wear!!

Sir George, The First :^)

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Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 01:03:02 -0500
From: Robert B Boughner <notajock@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61561] Questions

Message-ID: <20000129.010304.-170535.0.notajock@juno.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi all

The 2n2/6 sounds great. Now if it were only ssb.

I lost my bookmark for Dan's Small Parts. Can someone refresh me about the URL?

In the 6M thread, I saw several references to the ICOM 502. Was that the little brick-like unit that made back in the mid 70's?

Back in the mid 60's I operated 6M using an SX24 w/converter as a receiver and a Sixer transmitter putting out about about 3 watts.

Bob, WA9LSD

EL95 or 96

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Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 01:06:05 -0500 (EST)

From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>

To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [61562] Re; Construction

Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.10.10001290048070.23158-100000@u1.abs.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I almost forgot, Some one asked about Wire Wrapping in Construction Projects on the list this week. I didn't have a chance to speak up at the time. In my 36 years with Ma Bell, I had a number of opportunities to develop skills with various wire wrapping & unwrapping tools.

Yes, they can be used with varying degrees of success on home brew projects. Most of us will find the small hand wrapping tools the most useful. Unfortunately, they seem to have risen quite a bit in cost over the years. I just checked the latest Jensen Catalog tonight and was shocked at the price of the hand wrap tools. \$ 50-75 for simple ones.

I don't know if they still have them or not, but I seem to recall seeing

some at Radio Shack in the past. Certainly good enuff for our purposes. Generally the wire is #22 or #24 Guage. PVC Telephone Wire is readily available at low cost. R.S. Sells rolls of Kevlar insulated wire wrap on small spools also.

If you are planning to wire wrap directly to IC chips legs DEAD BUG Style with the CHIP Glued to the PCB with Epoxy, Super Glue, or Hot Melt Glue. Be very careful as the tool tends to catch and wring the legs off if not careful. Best to practice a bit with OLD CHIPS Pulled from Surplus PCBs. Lots of junked computers had socketed ics. I have numerous cans of recycled IC's from previous ventures into recycling and recovery.

If you are in a hurry, the propane torch to the bottom of the board and a quick rap against the work bench and you have a floor full of chips.

Use proper ventilation and safety Precautions.

Sir George, The First :^)

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Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 01:28:57 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61563] Re: 6 Meters
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.10.10001290106210.23158-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gee, I just realized that I haven't been on 6 Meters in almost 40 years.

It was the First Band that I operated on back in the 60's. I recall using about 10 Watts on 6 Meters AM, out in Oregon on a Mountain top while working for Uncle Sam (USAF). My friend Bob, K9UMO had a Little Rig Called

a "Black Widow" which we used along with a home brew Beam which we hung from the guy wires at the 70 ft level of the Antenna Farm. (Uncle's)

We had a lot of fun with that simple setup. That was when I was an Almost No Code Tech. :^) (Bet we didn't have 5 WPM between the two of us :^)

We also had a few QSO's on the 220 Band with Uncles Toys. :^)

Hey, we had to make sure they were working good didn't we?

We didn't have to worry much about TVI either. The closest TV was at least 5 miles away at the main Base. The next closest would have been about 20 miles away, down in the valley.

I was looking thru my library tonight for an article of Loops for Ade Weiss when I came across a simple 6 Meter Converter by Tom Pusateri, W9NBG in the Oct 1993 issue of the QRP Quarterly on Page 8. A NE602 project.

Unfortunately, We are out of stock on those older issues.

I guess the point is really that you should not overlook trying out the simple solutions to getting on 6 Meters. Of Course you can make more contacts with High Power and Gain Antennas, but not nearly as much FUN as with something you made yourself for next to nothing.

I hear of a lot of people using those Ten-Tec Transverters and K2 Rigs to get on the band. Seems like I heard a rumor about a new rig from SWL in the works. Now we all know that the reall VHFers are in N.E. Mts.:^) How can it miss? I 'll bet Zack will have one :^)

GN all es QRP DX TU

Sir George, The First :^)

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Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 01:42:00 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61564] Re: Headphones & Hearing Aids
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.10.10001290129440.23158-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

There was a Question about the best headphones for use with hearing aids on here tonight.

I have had these stereo code practice oscillators in my head for several years now and I find that it is best to just take them out when I put on the headphones. Otherwise I have to at least turn them off when using the phones. With them off, it is like having 20db attenuators in the ears.

While there is no proof, my XYL claims that my hearing loss is from too much ham radio. Actually, there may be some truth to the matter. I used to spend a lot of time on CW with headphones on constantly. Contests and Nets every day and many weekends. A strong case for Audio Limiting Devices in the rig and/or cord to the headset. (Back to back diodes if nothing else) Ain't hindsight wonderful? That QRO station that just fired up on you while you were trying to dig out the QRP Beacon is just one example.

So, comfort is not the only consideration with headsets. Not hearing takes all the fun out of the hobby. Just a thought..

Sir George, The First :^)

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Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 23:07:19 -0800 (PST)
From: tbessler@OregonVOS.net (Tom Bessler)
To: k3tks@u1.abs.net, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61565] Re: Construction

Message-ID: <v01540b02b4b7cfda423d@[192.168.76.6]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>Bet the Router would work too.
>

I used to work at a place that made finished bare boards. Routers were used to cut the boards from the 18 by 24 inch master gang boards. Stacks of three at a time, pin registered, on all sizes of finished boards from 1 by 3 to one up boards of 16 by 18 inches, all by computer control.

Overkill for the individual board maker. I'd use my Dremel with a router bit!

73, Tom WB7WSF

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 07:39:39 +0000
From: Arjen Raateland <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [61566] Re: My 6M ignorance
Message-ID: <3892993B.3F3@vyh.fi>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

> >Is 6 m a day-time only band like 10 m?

The answer is that six meters may be open also during the night ...
sometimes.

The reason I asked was to assess if it has potential for a cliff-dweller (somebody living in an apartment/flat?) who works in the day-time. My next ham project could be building a 6 m rig/transverter ...

Thanks for all the replies.

--
Arjen Raateland
oh2zaz

SAS Support
Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki

AX.25: OH2ZAZ@OH2RBI.FIN.EU

Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 23:07:44 -1000
From: Corky Kirk <w6ors@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61567] TS-450S or TS-690S
Message-ID: <20000128.232710.-871609.2.w6ors@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

1-28-00

Aloha,

Had a TS-690S or a TS-450S on my Christmas wish list, and fine they are still an open item.

Does there happen to be one of the above out there that needs a new home? Please reply direct.

73,

Corky Kirk W6ORS
Hilo HI
w6ors@juno.com

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Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 06:08:40 -0500 (EST)
From: QRP <qrp@email.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [61568] Wooden QSL Card
Message-ID: <380104635.949144120967.JavaMail.root@web08.pub01>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In 1970 W6MRV mailed me (6 cents postage) this QSL card made out of wood. Although I was QRP back then it didn't have the formal designation and distinction it does now:

<http://www.qsl.net/wb0jnr/qslcards.html>

WB0JNR
<http://www.rogerwendell.com>

-
--

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Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 20:46:46 -0800
From: "Mark Paley" <mpaley@wcnet.org>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61569] psk31 setup
Message-ID: <000001bf6a65\$c50bf6c0\$8aab85cd@mpaley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've been playing around with my Kenwood TS 570S using the PSK31 mode. I'm amazed at how little power it takes to have a QSO--10 watts for me and I'm sure I can scale it back to 5 watts or so. Anyway, I'm still experimenting with this mode and have not made any interface cables between my rig and my laptop. Are there any 570S users out there that have come up with cabling or possibly built the interface unit featured in the November, 1999 QST?

Any info would be appreciated.
Mark fPaley--KF8KL--
K2 #250
mpaley@wcnet.org
<http://www.wcnet.org/~mpaley>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 08:06:02 -0500
From: "Pastor-kc1di" <ELBC@PIVOT.NET>

To: <mpaley@wcnet.org>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61570] Re: psk31 setup
Message-ID: <001801bf6a59\$9adbe880\$e010a1d0@e1bc>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mark Paley" <mpaley@wcnet.org>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2000 11:46 PM
Subject: psk31 setup

> I've been playing around with my Kenwood TS 570S using the PSK31 mode. I'm
> amazed at how little power it takes to have a QSO--10 watts for me and I'm
> sure I can scale it back to 5 watts or so. Anyway, I'm still experimenting
> with this mode and have not made any interface cables between my rig and
my
> laptop. Are there any 570S users out there that have come up with cabling
or
> possibly built the interface unit featured in the November, 1999 QST?
>
> Any info would be appreciated.
> Mark fPaley--KF8KL--
> K2 #250
> mpaley@wcnet.org
> <http://www.wcnet.org/~mpaley>
>
>

Hi Mark

While I do not own the ts570d.. Nice rig.. The interface is quite simple ...
Here are a couple of web sights that discribe several ways to go.. in any
event all the parts can be had for about 10 bucks at Radio Shack.. or there
is a company making on in kit form .. take a look at the following web
sight..

and I agree psk31 is a very good low power mode.. just worked s51mm runing 4
watts..

<http://www.megalink.net/~n1rct/rit2/pttfsk.html>

<http://www.senet.com.au/~cpeacock/>

<http://www.qsl.net/wm2u/psk31.html>

this last one has the circut i used and it works fine..

<http://www.sanduskyohio.com/lectrokit/misc.htm>

this one has the Kit .. about 15 bucks.

Hope this helps
73 & 72 see you on psk31
dave kc1di

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 08:44:26 -0800
From: "Mark Paley" <mpaley@wcnet.org>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61571] psk31 responses
Message-ID: <001801bf6a78\$1bed0080\$8aab85cd@mpaley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to everyone for the psk31 information--what a great, helpful group of folks.

Mark Paley--KF8KL--
K2 #250
mpaley@wcnet.org
<http://www.wcnet.org/~mpaley>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 09:08:02 -0500
From: "Brian K. Miller" <millerbk@lancnews.infi.net>
To: k3tks@u1.abs.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61572] Re: 6 Meters
Message-ID: <3892F442.63AFDBB2@lancnews.infi.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've never operated 6, but, back in the mid '60s had a buddy down the street who was an avid 6m hound. Believe he ran a Clegg 66er with a 4 or 5 el. beam up about 30'. He used to work up and down the east coast regularly - even well after dark. Course, I could do the same on 40m anytime, so I didn't get bitten by the bug.

After he built an amplifier, though, he gained quite a reputation with all the neighbors. TVI up the wazoo! Had fun listening to him on my stereo, too. Even had the FCC parked out at his front door on several occasions. Believe me, his antics really scared me away from 6m. Too bad, really.

8^) Brian k3zen
EPA QRP #38

George Gingell wrote:

> Gee, I just realized that I haven't been on 6 Meters in almost 40 years.
>
> It was the First Band that I operated on back in the 60's. I recall using
> about 10 Watts on 6 Meters AM, out in Oregon on a Mountain top while
> working for Uncle Sam (USAF). My friend Bob, K9UMO had a Little Rig Called

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 09:46:27 -0500
From: John R Kirby <n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [61573] Small Loop Antenna vs Efficiency
Message-ID: <20000129.094814.-77633.1.n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I agree 100 % and lets
look at what pops up if we
evaluate that arithmetic a little more . . .

>From the example . . .
>For instance, if the resistance is
>total = 2.3 Ohms, then the efficiecnry = $0.23/2.3$, quite a difference
>story and a whole lot more power radiated!!!

Now the arithmetic . . .
. . . that ratio ($0.23 / 2.3$) is one order of magnitude.

5W Input for 0.5 W Output,
that is one order of magnitude.

One order of magnitude is equivalent to 10 dB.

That is like having a 10 dB attenuator
between a good antenna and your radio.

I see 3dB + 3dB + 3dB + 1 dB

that is equivalent to 10 dB.

Remember too,
3 dB (three) is equivalent to
50% (fifty percent).

Small Loop Antenna vs Efficiency

John
N3AAZ
FM19xa

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 09:37:46 -0800
From: jbhenson@zebra.net (James Bartley Henson III)
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61574] Antennas - Small Transmitting Loops
Message-ID: <000b01bf6a7f\$8f2f5d20\$79ee0cd1@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello everyone,

The recent posts on small loop antennas have been very interesting.
I have a few observations to add, not as an expert but as someone that
built and used a couple of these antennas.

For the basic design, I used my old, ragged 1988 copy of "The ARRL
Antenna Book". Chapter 5, pg 5-9 thru 5-17 is excellent reading and
includes a section written by Ted Hart, W5QJR. A table of calculations
is provided. I created a Lotus spreadsheet and played "what if" games.
The result was 20/15 meter loop that worked quite well. The loop was
relatively small (total circumference was ~12.5 feet) and easy to handle.
Last year I built an 80/40/30 loop antenna using the same spreadsheet.
During testing, I worked an Ohio mobile on 40. He was QRO and I was
QRP. This loop was quite large and very difficult to handle. I have since
dismantled it as I have no place to store it.

Anyhow - a few notes:

1. I found my loops were good for only a couple of bands. I could not get the 20/15 loop to tune 10. It seems that this is a result of stray capacitance. The calculated efficiency of my 80/40/30 loop on 80 was so low that I didn't even try it on 80. The loop was designed for 40 meters. If you plan to build one, design it for the lowest band of operation and it should (maybe, possibly, etc.....) cover the next higher band.

2. Once the loop has been tuned to a specific frequency, anything that is done to it may/will affect that tuning. I tuned my 20/25 loop and marked the tuning capacitor with a magic marker. I then steel woolled the copper pipe and painted it with a clear polyurethane finish. It was beautiful! Of course, the tuning marks were no longer valid but it was beautiful..... The Q of a small loop is very high and tuning points are easily affected by external factors. Be careful of this.

3. The calculated RF voltage on the tuning capacitor with 100 watts to my 20/15 loop was 4048 volts. At 5 watts, the calculated RF voltage was 700+ volts. Be careful using the antenna with pets, children, yourself around it. With these high voltages, plate spacing of the tuning capacitor is important.

4. Hart's equation for efficiency is $RR/(RR+RL)$ where RR is radiation resistance and RL is loss resistance. Calculations for my 20/15 loop indicated $RR = 0.171$ ohms and $RL = 0.052$ ohms with an efficiency of 76.88% (20 meter operation). To keep loss resistance down, use 3/4" copper tubing and sweat all joints with a torch and solder. The tuning capacitor should be a split stator type. According to Hart, efficiency can be improved by operating the loop over a system of radials. I did not try this.

5. I made a trombone style of tuning capacitor with 1/2" copper tubing that slid into 2 legs of the 3/4" copper loop. PVC pipe was force fit onto the 1/2" copper and

insulated it from the 3/4" legs. Remote tuning was done using an old Skil
screwdriver
motor and threaded rod. Worked very well.

6. I fed the antennas with coax to a gamma match and SWR was very low.

The small transmitting loops do work. They appear to be very efficient over
a narrow range. As I
mentioned earlier, a couple of bands was all that I was able to use an
antenna on.

I have converted my spreadsheet of calculations to EXCEL. If anyone is
interested, and I can
figure out how to attach a file, I would be most happy to send it to you. A
direct request would be
best as I get the reflector in digest mode.

Sorry for the band width. Good luck if you decide to try one.

72,
jay
N4XDW

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 11:19:32 -0500
From: Joseph Trombino Jr <joebarb@wilmington.net>
To: QRP-L@LEHIGH.EDU
Subject: [61575] 6 meters
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20000129111932.00850e70@wilmington.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I've been following the discussion on 6 meters with great interest since
"six" is one of my favorite bands. I run a Yaesu FT-736 on 6M with a
whopping power output of 10W (believe this level is considered QRP at
VHF/UHF). I decided to try out a wire antenna on 6M to see what could be
done on the band with such a simple system.

The February 1997 issue of QST had an article that described three types of
wire gain antennas for 6 meters. The article contained construction
details for an "off-center fed long wire", a "multi-element collinear wire
array" and a "Sterba curtain".

To keep things simple I built the OCF long wire (total length of 75' 5"),
using a 4:1 VHF balun purchased from the "Radio Works" at:

<<http://www.radioworks.com>>

The company also sells this antenna along with a 6M loop ready-made for those that don't have the time to homebrew. I have no connection to this company, just a satisfied customer over the years.

The antenna required some trimming but an MFJ-259 made the job relatively easy. The antenna is about 40 feet above ground and fed with coax.

Does this simple antenna work??? You bet!! I have surprised some of the local 6 meter devotees in my area by being able to work what they can while they're using multi-element yagis and quads and running substantially higher power!!!

Don't sell simple wire antennas for 6 meters short...when 6 meters opens up these antennas can be very effective while being gentle on the pocket-book. Give it a try...you'll be surprised what can be done on 6M with a "minimalist" antenna system and low power.

Joe W2KJ (North Carolina)

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 11:39:16 -0500
From: John R Kirby <n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [61576] Rotary Dipole for SIX and TEN
Message-ID: <20000129.114027.-148867.1.n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Group

re my post
>From: John R Kirby <n3aaz-qrp@juno.com>
>To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
>Date: Fri, 28 Jan 2000 07:39:36 -0500
>Subject: Defacto 6 M DX Alert Freqs

and the promise of HB dimensions for that plumbers delight . . .

KUDOS to . . .
Keith,
WB2VUO,
100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp

who has saved me a trip through 14 inches of white stuff
to the bone yard with a tap.

FYI,
his description and
design ideas are far superior to
my lattice cap strip and
duct tape approach,
. . . thanks again Keith . . .

. . . . > > > copy from his post < < <

I use a rotary dipole on those bands also,
both stored for FD'2000.

The dimensions are as follow:

6 Meters - Each dipole half = 55.5"
Feedpoint separation = 1"
Overall Length = 112"

10 Meters - Each dipole half = 8' 3"
Feedpoint separation = 1"
Overall length = 16' 7"

The material is 1/2" EMT on 6 Meters and 3/4" EMT on 10 Meters. I use
dowels inside the EMT at the feedpoint to keep the halves aligned and
insulate the dipoles from the mast bracket with sections of 3/4" CPVC
pipe, slit and compressed under the U-bolts. 2 bolts per dipole and 2
TV-style U-bolts per dipole to the mast. The dipoles are mounted to 3
foot long 1 x 3's (furring strips)

If I was to put one up for a long-term operatino, I would use a length of
angle stock and hose clamps around the PVC then bolt the angle stock to
the mast with a single U-bolt.

My feedpoint connections are #8-32 bolts, star lock washers and double
nuts for security, all stainless hardware.

72/73, Keith, WB2VU0

. . . > > > end copy < < < . . .

tnx agn Keith es
hope to hear u all on the "magic" band too

John
N3AAZ

FM19xa

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 12:02:56 -0500

From: "Charles Mabbott" <crmabbott@mediaone.net>

To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>

Subject: [61577] FS: QRP and misc items

Message-ID: <007501bf6a7a\$b06ab200\$67358318@mw.mediaone.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The following Amateur radio items are from the estate of Bob Clapp, AL7EV
Pastor of St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Livonia, MI. I [WD8ODW Bill] have
been asked by his family to assist in disposing of these items.

Manuals and original boxes are available for most items. Please send e-mail
inquiries to Bill Pomeroy <mailto:pomeroynv1@aol.com>

For sale:

Larson roof mount antenna \$35.00

MFJ 941E versa tuner II \$50.00

Vibroplex straight key \$60.00

Bencher CW paddle \$60.00

J-47 straight key \$20.00

Oak Hills QRP wattmeter \$50.00

Heath Watt meter with dummy load (make offer)

S&S Engineering TAC 1 QRP XCVR \$125.00

S&S Engineering ARK 20 QRP XCVR \$125.00

S&S Engineering ARK IV 40 mtr XMTR \$125.00

Unidilla Big Signal Balun \$10.00

Unidilla W2DU HF Balun \$15.00

MAHA MH 1010 Nicad rapid Charger \$25.00

Radko shack DSP processor \$35.00

Heath 4 outlet Coax switch \$20.00

Koss K/6A and other assorted "BUD" earphones \$25.00

Micronta Multi-meter \$20.00

Foor mount bracket for hand held radio \$35.00

Radia Shack HTX 400 mini hand held \$135.00

New Allicance TV rotator \$50.00

Due to the pricing there will be \$2.00 to \$5.00 dollar to assist in shipping depending on distance and size of item.
Submitted to list by Chuck AA8VS

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 12:29:17 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: Tom Bessler <tbessler@OregonVOS.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61578] Re: Construction
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.10.10001291221520.21851-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Tom,

Thanks for the informative comments. Since I have several of the Dremel Tools, I will give that a try sometime. They also sell a tool now called a Spiral Saw with drill like bits which is used to make holes in wallboard and tiles. I have been meaning to give that a try also.

Actually I have been keeping an eye out for a good Trimmer Router, such as the Porter Cable model. You get lots of chances to use these tools in the Locksmith Business. :^)

I would have thought the Dremel a bit under powered for the task, but you never know until yu try it. :^)

Thanks again..

Sir George, The First :^)

72 ES

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net
QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.
Gingell & Company, Ltd. Small Business Telephone Systems
Notary Public and Locksmith Services
George D. Gingell, Jr. 3052 Fairland Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904-7117
Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789
Maryland Milliwatt Club Founder and Trustee of Club Station - WQ3RP -
Grid Square FM19mb 76.94 W - 39.06 N Silver Spring, MD 20904 QRPea.A.

On Fri, 28 Jan 2000, Tom Bessler wrote:

>
> >Bet the Router would work too.

> >
>
> I used to work at a place that made finished bare boards. Routers were used
> to cut the boards from the 18 by 24 inch master gang boards. Stacks of
> three at a time, pin registered, on all sizes of finished boards from 1 by
> 3 to one up boards of 16 by 18 inches, all by computer control.
>
> Overkill for the individual board maker. I'd use my Dremel with a router bit!
>
> 73, Tom WB7WSF
>
>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 12:31:45 -0500
From: david fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>
To: kb8tt@ncweb.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61579] Re: Snakes & QRP outdoors,Why we have the problem
Message-ID: <38932401.D44D9B30@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I kinda liked the Eat Snake portion of the exercise...gives you
necessary nourishment to last through long QRP weekends in woods..

Dave
WA4EMR/8

Dave Curry wrote:

>
> Har!--I wish all off-topic postings were this good. Best laugh I've had
> in a week!!
>
> Um, well it really isn't off-topic--Actually an important guide for QRPers
> in the field. (Required statement to make reply an on-topic response.)
>
> Dave
> KB8TT
>
> *****
> BROTHERS-IN-ARMS
>
> Dedicated to Thomas D. Curry and the men he served with in Company F,
> 331st Infantry, 83rd Division.

>
> <http://www.ncweb.com/~davecurry/brothers/>
> *****

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 09:13:42 -0800
From: "David Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: <k3tks@u1.abs.net>, <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [61580] Re: 6 Meters and rumors
Message-ID: <000301bf6a97\$e7d70e60\$b796173f@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

>
>I hear of a lot of people using those Ten-Tec Transverters and K2 Rigs
>to get on the band. Seems like I heard a rumor about a new rig from
>SWL in the works.

True- it's that time of year again when a young man's thoughts turn to
Dayton, but not for 6M. The new project is a low-cost PSK31 platform on
20M.

73- Dave, NN1G

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 09:44:54 -0800
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61581] Re: Construction practices
Message-ID: <01bf6a80\$8d306360\$b1d5fc9e@ham.earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ron
My favorite way to cut PC board is to use a mitre box.

I picked up a cheap plastic one at my local hardware store, and it works fine with a hacksaw. I get nice 90 degree cuts, as well as 45 degree cuts.

I bought special blades for the hacksaw, with 32 teeth to the inch. Makes for cleaner cuts than the coarser blade that you usually find on a hacksaw.

I secure the board scrap in place by using duct tape around the edges. Holds it nice and steady.

Only limitation to this is that you have to cut down a larger piece so the actual piece you want will fit inside the walls of the mitre box.

Stop off at a hardware store and look at a plastic or wood mitre box, and you will see the size of board it will handle.

To cut down a larger board piece, I clamp a metal straight edge along the line I want to cut, then go at it with the hacksaw. The metal strip provides a guide that keeps the cut straighter than freehand sawing would get you.

73, Bob N6WG

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 09:49:58 -0800
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61582] Re: Ref. 160M CW Contest
Message-ID: <01bf6a81\$427061d0\$b1d5fc9e@ham.earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi George

I was on last night, and quit about 1:30AM with 50 Qso in the log. Got 3 more this morning before everyone quit and went to bed, I guess. I'll be back on tonight. Hope to beat my 126 Qs from the early Dec ARRL 160m test.

I'll keep an ear open for you tonight.

73, Bob N6WG

Newark, CA on SF Bay

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 13:19:34 EST
From: n5ib@juno.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.edu

Subject: [61583] Construction: cutting PC boards
Message-ID: <20000129.121350.4671.0.N5IB@juno.com>

A tip given to me by a machinist at work:

Since the glass fiber material quickly dulls cutting edges, and since I cut the material with a metal cutting blade on my (inexpensive) bench top band saw, he suggested always keeping an old blade (tagged for that purpose only) handy, and putting it on when getting ready to cut board stock. His comment was that very quickly even a new blade is dulled and actually begins to make what he referred to as a "friction cut," and for that purpose an old blade will serve just as well.

It only takes about a minute to swap blades on my saw, and at just under \$10 a pop, I'd rather save a good one if possible.

Of course, at work we have a kick shear, a Kepro PC board shear, big band saws, and milling machines. Oh, and best of all, a vertical belt sander for touching up edges. So guess how much PC stock gets cut at home, unless I'm on vacation :^)

73,
Jim N5IB

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 11:51:50 -0700
From: Bruce Grubbs N7CEE <n7cee@arrl.net>
To: mpaley@wcnet.org, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61584] Re: psk31 setup
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.20000129115150.00a37af0@earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Mark,

For what it's worth, all my PSK contacts have been at 5 watts or less. It's a great QRP mode.

73

Bruce N7CEE
n7cee@arrl.net

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 11:25:05 -0800 (PST)
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
To: Bob Tellefsen <n6wg@earthlink.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61585] Re: Ref. 160M CW Contest
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.10001291120370.10465-1000000@rotor.dri.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Bob,

Thanks for the QSO last night. You had a nice sig here.

Worked several QRPers from the list.

Got one more state....MS. Now I am down to 2. Still need
ME and RI. HELP!!!! :-)

I did get a JA which is something else I never thought I'd
do on 160m! Wheeeeeee!

But the contest seemed kinda slow. Only 130 contacts so far.
Will be there tonight looking for all the QSOs I can get!

Sometimes this can be a big black hole and at other times
it's just great!

Hope to cu all tonight..... (Heard Ade several times but
he was always S&Ping and I couldn't get "in front" of him
to snag him....maybe tonight!)

73, Ron

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@dri.edu....Washoe Lake, Nevada....NRA LIFE....
.....SOWP 5545M.....WHINERS #1.....ZOMBIE #18.....

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 11:28:40 -0800

From: "K7FD-N7SG" <k7fd@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <cw@qth.net>, <fists@qth.net>, <elecrafft@qth.net>
Subject: [61586] BC, WA, OR, CA CW QRP; QRZ?
Message-ID: <002801bf6a8f\$0dffd1c0\$60231ad8@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Attn: BC, WASHINGTON, OREGON, and CALIFORNIA CW QRP'ers!

I'm looking for all west coast cw op's who would like to make 3.710+-MHz a nightly watering hole for cw qrp qso's.

Everyone is welcome; if you're in Arizona or Alaska and you hear us (me?), that's close enough! This is not a net, just a place to congregate and shoot the bull a bit at 15 to 20wpm. In otherwords, I N F O R M A L...hihi. Jump in when you feel like it!

To aid in 'hooking up' with one another, I would also like to see a list of qrp cw buddies on my ICQ list. If you don't have ICQ, try www.mirabilis.com for a free download. Please email me for my ICQ number...so we can start a network of on-line qrp cw op's! ICQ works GREAT for sending a quick message like 'Hi Bob...hey, meet me on 3.710MHz and listen for my new paddle, etc...'.

I am monitoring es cq'ing on 3.710MHz nightly starting about 0230UTC and up into the wee morning hours (sometimes!)

...sure would like to hear from you; if this sounds like FUN, let me know! I will be online all day and on 3.710MHz tonight...

72 John K7FD, Member K7FFF and K7ZZZ Clubs
 QRPARCI 8193, Norcal ZOMBIE 736
 Fists 2420, ARRL Lifer, A-1 OP

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 10:51:04 -0900
From: John Raynsford <al7jk@gci.net>
To: qrp Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61587] 3.710 mhz
Message-ID: <389344A7.2D7D4D9@gci.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

sounds like fun!

3.710 mhz it is

AL7JK, John
Eagle River, Alaska
61.18.55N 149.31.57W

ICQ 1998180

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 15:46:57 -0500
From: "Alex" <aturner13@mindspring.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [61588] Denoting fractional power with cw
Message-ID: <00e501bf6a99\$fc855400\$3a2d8ad1@pentiumii>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

What is the accepted way to send ur power out to the other station when it is in fractions of watts. How would you send 1.5 watts and say 250mw. I guess my question is really how to denote the decimal point.

Alex,N4BYJ

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 15:42:32 -0500
From: Thomas Jennings <jennings@eznet.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61589] [Fwd: Stanford Sets another UHF Distance Record with Mars]
Message-ID: <389350B8.D0E2F1FD@eznet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"John L. Callas" wrote:

>

Usual disclaimers--no connections with radioshack.com or edsyn, nor do I own either of these units or have any experience or opinion regarding them.

73,

Dave AB0G0

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 16:06:05 -0500
From: "Scott E. Olitsky" <solitsky@acsu.buffalo.edu>
To: <aturner13@mindspring.com>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61591] Other characters in cw
Message-ID: <012101bf6a9c\$aa9cabe0\$414d3018@olitsky.buf.adelphia.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

With this in mind...how do you send "@" when you want to send an email address in cw?

Scott
AC3A

>What is the accepted way to send ur power out to the other station when it
>is in fractions of watts. How would you send 1.5 watts and say 250mw. I
>guess my question is really how to denote the decimal point.
>
>Alex,N4BYJ
>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 15:06:54 -0600
From: "Mike D." <hrg@megsinet.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61592] RE: Other characters in cw
Message-ID: <001b01bf6a9c\$c51cbaa0\$90ced6d8@urbancom.net>

MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

> With this in mind...how do you send "@" when you want to send an email
> address in cw?

"at"

73 de Mike, N9BOR
FISTS NR 4594
<http://www.qsl.net/n9bor>

di dah dit - The only roger beep you'll ever need.
My designated driver is a 12BY7A.
I want to party like it's 1969.
Solid State leaves me cold.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 13:10:18 -0800 (PST)
From: Jim Hale <kj5tf@yahoo.com>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61593] 160M Miles per watt K2 assault
Message-ID: <20000129211018.20566.qmail@web705.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Afew weeks ago I listened in as Dan N4ROA, & Diz
WB8QYY broke the 160M Miles Per Watt record. They had
a nice path working plus some Mojo I think. Then the
next day they break there own record! Cool

But today was my turn, and the CQ 160M contest was my
chance. Like I said I would do I looked up and down
for strong stations CQ'ing with no callers.

I was able to work afew with low down milliwatts, K4ZI
27mW, & K4VB 20mW.

Then this morning, wayyy too early, W8JI was strong
and CQ'ing on 1.835MHz, down in Ga. I called him in
the clear several times, and he finally heard me at
11:18Z! We made the exchange and my power was 20mW, or
a tad under. Checked it before and after.

The mileage was pretty good, enough to knock Dan & Diz off the top of Top band QRPp!

There "old" record was 25,250mpw, and I came in at 28,500 mpw.

Ok, who's gunna be next to knock me off there!? ;-)

As the sun came up I was calling "DX" station W7CW in WY with 20mW, and that would have been SUPER! But not this time. I had a couple of "QRZ's", but no cigar.

Maybe next time I'll do better. I never heard any true DX at all. A few VE's, but I didn't catch any of them either.

My rig is Elecraft K2 #702, Ten Tec Step Attenuator, WM-2, and 30% shortened Vee dipole at 45ft.

Records are made to be broken...

72/3's Jim KJ5TF

=====

Ham radio/alt energy - <http://www.qsl.net/kj5tf/>
<http://www.madisoncounty.net/~kj5tf/>
Milliwattting Editor ARCI QRP Quarterly
Join/renew membership QRP Amateur Radio Club International
<http://www.qrparci.org/arcijoin.html>
AR QRP#2 - Kingston, Arkansas 35.94N 93.47W
Private email kj5tf@madisoncounty.net

Do You Yahoo!?
Talk to your friends online with Yahoo! Messenger.
<http://im.yahoo.com>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 16:14:53 -0500
From: Jeff Davis <jeff@n9avg.org>
To: "Scott E. Olitsky" <solitsky@acsu.buffalo.edu>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61594] Re: Other characters in cw
Message-ID: <20000129161453.D17592@n9avg.org>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Quoting Scott E. Olitsky (solitsky@acsu.buffalo.edu) [000129 16:06]:

> With this in mind...how do you send "@" when you want to send an email
> address in cw?

I always just use "at" but there is no telling. I was just reading a very FB article in the latest QRPp (by Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV) that listed all kinds of rarely used CW characters... like dollar sign \$ (dit dit dit dah dit dit dah) and more.

If it is EVER 3am and somebody sends that to me I'm pulling the big plug and going QRT without so much as a goodbye! hi hi

--

72 de Jeff, N9AVG

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 16:18:56 -0800
From: "GARY McCAUGHEY" <MAIL4GARY@worldnet.att.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [61595] Where did S&S Engineering go?
Message-ID: <002501bf6ab7\$9df37200\$8a990a3f@garymcca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Did S&S move their website? Anyone know??

<http://www.xmetric.com/sseng/>
This one does not work.

Gary
W2UX
Lexington, SC

CW is the REAL THING, USE IT or LOSE IT!

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 15:37:27 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: QRP-Canada <qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca>, Low Power Group <qrp-1@LeHigh.EDU>
Subject: [61596] FOXHUNT:Team Scores
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.1000129152734.32627A-1000000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

..DON'T FORGET FOXII, SEND YOUR "FINAL LOG" TO ME AS WELL
AS TO PAUL...that will be a big help...thank you all....

Fox Hunt 24 - K8CV -

20th. MAINE BENGAL BEARS:Total=8 BLUE J's:Total=13

Jim - N5IB
Butch - N5SMQ
Bill - NT1R
Joel - KE1LA

John - VE3JC
Jim - VE6JWA
Jeff - VA3JFF
Jon - TF3JA

EMPIRE HOUNDS:Total=15

Dick - K2JQ
Kevin - N2T0
Mark - N2JTW
Nick - KF2PH <-

HOUSTON HOUNDS:Total=64"Sweep"

Bill - K5ZTY <-
Bill - W5SB <-
Terry - KQ5U <-
Dan - KK5LD <-

MANGY MUSHERS:Total=56

Pete - NV4V
Paul - VA7NT <-
Bruce - N7RR <-
Ed - K1VP <-

NIGHT OWLS:Total=37

Ed - WE6W <-
Rich - N5JI
Dan - N7CQR
Ben - NW7DX

OKLAHOMA TORNADOS:Total=47

Cliff - AB5UA <-
Royce - KE5TC
Don - K5AAR <-
Gody - AC6UV

RAIDERS OF THE LOST RF:Total=42

Fred - VE3FAL
Earl - VE6EWM <-
Mary - NA6E
Bruce - VE5RC <-

SCATTER SHOT GUNNERS:Total=63

Mike - K1MG <-
Jack - W5TFB <-
Stan - N6XU
Pat - K0PC

SFBA FOGHORNS:Total=21

Bob - N6WG <-
Conrad - NN6CW
Andreas - N6NU
Allan - K7GT <-

SWORDS:Total=37

Rick - WB6JBM
Andy - KC8KFI
Doc - K0EVZ <-
Dan - N8IE

TEAM ScQRPion:Total= 64

Floyd - NQ7X <-
Gary - AB7MY
Conard - WS4S
Bob - KI7MN <-

TEXAS TARANTULAS:Total=58"Sweep"

Bill - K5LN <-
Dave - N5IW <-
Bob - AF5Z <-
Tom - N5TW <-

WESTERN WRANGLERS:Total=35

Randy - K7TQ <-
Chuck - K7QO
Steve - WW7Y
Ron - KU7Y <-

SWAMP RATS:Total=67"Sweep"

Tom - N1TP <-
Mac - AF4PS <-
Fred - W2XN <-
Paul - AJ4Y <-

TEAM CRAMP.COM:Total= 36

OJ - K10J <-
George - K5VUU<-
Mike - K5NZ
Eric - NM5M

TESLA'S TERRORS:Total=86

Wayne - N0EA <-
Dan - N0DT
Tim - N0EHW
Joe - W0JOE

UNDERDOGS:Total=72

Roy - AB7CE <-
Dan - N4ROA
Brian - KB9BVN
Ron - KI0II <-

NORTEX Irregulars:Total=7

Doc - W5TB
Joe - KK5NA <-
Don - N5YAK
Barb - KK5QA

...72 - Bruce(VE5RC+VE5QRP)

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 14:47:53 -0700 (MST)
From: Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
To: Dave Ek <ekdave@earthlink.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61597] Re: Edsyn Soldering Station on sale at www.radioshack.com
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.96.1000129144405.25375A-1000000@usr06.primenet.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

WOW!!! That's a deal! Last time they had these at this price I bought two for work and an extra one for myself. I'm a two-handed SMT builder sometimes. This is a great soldering iron.

When this came up last time, I made the remark that I did not like the Weller irons that I had at work as the tips did not last. That was about six months ago. Well, those two Edsyn irons at work still have the original tips, whereas the Weller tips would be gone in two weeks with the same usage and care (wet sponge for minor cleaning, sal ammonia for retinning).

This is a great deal!

Chris

On Sat, 29 Jan 2000, Dave Ek wrote:

> Gang,
>
> There's an Edsyn soldering station priced at half off in the radioshack.com
> ad I just got in the mail. It's the 951SX and it's a temperature-controlled
> unit priced at \$74.50 (\$149 regular price). I recall this (or one similar)
> being somewhat popular a while back with list members. It's radioshack.com
> product number is 910-1901.
>
> There's also an Edsyn soldering iron on clearance at radioshack.com. Regular
> price \$59.95, now priced at \$26.88. I don't know anything about this unit.
> This one's model number is CL1481, and the radioshack.com product number is
> 910-4349.
>
> You can see these online at www.radioshack.com. You can learn more about
> them at www.edsyn.com.
>
> Usual disclaimers--no connections with radioshack.com or edsyn, nor do I own
> either of these units or have any experience or opinion regarding them.
>
> 73,
>
> Dave AB0GO
>
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High Performance Mixers and
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Chris Trask / N7ZWY
Principal Engineer
Sonoran Radio Research
P.O. Box 25240
Tempe, Arizona 85285-5240

IEEE Member #40274515

Email: ctrask@primenet.com
<http://www.primenet.com/~ctrask>

Graphics by Loek Frederiks

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:07:06 -0500
From: "Richard Brummer, K2JQ" <obvious@bestweb.net>
To: <aturner13@mindspring.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61598] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
Message-ID: <002e01bf6aa5\$2f565b80\$ec04b3d8@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Alex,

It is generally accepted practice to denote a decimal point with "R," so that your example of 1.5 watts would be sent as 1R5 watts. Your 250mw example would be sent just the way you have written it..

73,
Dick K2JQ

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 15:19:41 EST
From: Richard S McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [61599] TiCK Keyer
Message-ID: <20000129.170423.4223.0.kc8aon@juno.com>

CQ Gang,

Well, I got the TiCK Keyer kit in the mail Thursday, Got it built today (Saturday) and I must say, for it's size and price it's hard to beat ! I built mine as a stand alone unit so I could use it with other rigs if I want. Built it into a very nice box from Radio Shack, one with a removable panel for a 9 volt battery compartment and a nice flat front panel where I mounted the paddle input jack, user interface control button and a power switch. Don't think I needed the power switch, the thing uses very little power when not in use and if you disconnect the power you loose your memory message and the TiCK reverts back to it's default settings, so I might use that switch for something like a "tune" control in the future. The TiCK has a tune feature, but a switch would be quicker since you have to push and hold the control button on the keyer and listen for the right character to be sent, then let up and push and hold again to get into the tune mode. But overall, if you are looking for a small (very small) keyer to build into your QRP rig (or any rig), this one will fit almost anywhere ! The board is only about one inch square ! The kit includes the board and all the board mounted components, the paddle input jack, keyer output jack, a piezo audio transducer for sidetone output - or you can inject it into the audio of the rig, it also includes the user interface control button. The usual disclaimers apply, just a satisfied customer ! Hope to work ya'll soon.

73...Rick McKee KC8AON { CW lives as long as I do ! }
Willow Wood, Ohio
AR QRP # 269
QRP-L # 2112
ZOMBIE # 718

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 15:23:13 -0700 (MST)
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>

To: Alex <aturner13@mindspring.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61600] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10001291503070.22539-100000@shell.rt66.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Sat, 29 Jan 2000, Alex wrote:

> What is the accepted way to send ur power out to the other station when it
> is in fractions of watts. How would you send 1.5 watts and say 250mw.

Using the letter "R" to denote a decimal point was the standard in commercial CW circuits and the railroads for years, and often heard on the hambands. I also believe W1AW uses this practice on their CW bulletins. Therefore ...

1.5W = "1R5 W" and
250mW = "250mW" (I would send this one "straight" to avoid confusion)

For a little nostalgia ...

I remember years ago copying the AP News on coastal maritime station WCC in Chatham, MA. Part of their news was the foreign exchange rates to the US Dollar, which made extensive use of the "R" for the decimal point, i.e. "1 DOLLAR = 1R05 PESO" or whatever. Before you ask about the equal sign, they simply used "ditdit ditdit" to denote it.

I also used to copy the iceberg position reports from CFH in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Latitudes and Longitudes were denoted as degrees and decimals of a degree, such as

55R3N/46R7W (E)

56R8N/49R1W (E) ... for 56.8 degrees N, 49.1 degrees W.

The (E) denoted ESTIMATED position, which took a while to figure out as that whizzed by at 25-30wpm as:

- . - - . . - . - - . -
(E)

You kinda went "huh?"

OK, nostalgia/CW trivia off. But for those of us OT's that liked to copy CW, there was lots of entertainment to be found on shortwave between military, commercial, news and maritime CW stations. Really a shame all those stations no longer have CW services, like NSS, NPN, NPG, WCC, KPH, CFH, VAI, WNU, etc.

72, Paul NA5N

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:21:20 -0500
From: "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
To: <qrp@email.com>
Cc: "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61601] RE: Wooden QSL Card
Message-ID: <000f01bf6aa7\$2ba85cc0\$5c32a7d0@ispchannel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Your wooden QSL reminds me of the card I got recently from SU9ZZ in Egypt.
It's entirely of papyrus.

Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine QRP-L 687 .-.-.

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of
QRP
Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2000 6:09 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Wooden QSL Card

In 1970 W6MRV mailed me (6 cents postage) this QSL card made out of wood.
Although I was QRP back then it didn't have the formal designation and
distinction it does now:

<http://www.qsl.net/wb0jnr/qslcards.html>

WB0JNR
<http://www.rogerwendell.com>

-
--

FREE! The World's Best Email Address @email.com
Reserve your name now at <http://www.email.com>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:41:19 EST
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: aturner13@mindspring.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61602] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
Message-ID: <7a.f1ff44.25c4c68f@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For fractional watt reports, I have used 1R5 or 1 ES 1/2 to describe 1-1/2 watts. R is commonly used as a decimal point in CW. W1AW uses it in their bulletins when sending Keplerian elements or solar data. Some may send 1.5, with a period denoting the decimal point.

For mw, I send 1/4 WATTS for my 250mw rig. Many actually send 250 MW. QRPers will easlily understand it. Not much choice if you are running 647mw though. You almost have to spell it out.

Whatever works for you, use it. Remember though that R is understood as a decimal point when it is embedded in numbers.

72

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:34:49 EST
From: Richard S McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [61603] 1st QSO using TiCK keyer
Message-ID: <20000129.174518.4223.4.kc8aon@juno.com>

Just worked Craig - W4PU down in Georgia using my new TiCK keyer - it worked flawless ! He was using an SW-40 @ 1W, and I was using an HW-8 at abt 3W. I love QRP ! Now if I can only save enough pennies for a K2 !

73...Rick McKee KC8AON { CW lives as long as I do ! }

Willow Wood, Ohio
AR QRP # 269
QRP-L # 2112
ZOMBIE # 718

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
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Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:28:51 EST
From: Richard S McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: jeff@n9avg.org, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [61604] Re: Other characters in cw
Message-ID: <20000129.174518.4223.2.kc8aon@juno.com>

I wud just send " D O L L A R " or " A T " or " 1 5 0 0 M W " for 1.5 watts !

73...Rick McKee KC8AON { CW lives as long as I do ! }
Willow Wood, Ohio
AR QRP # 269
QRP-L # 2112
ZOMBIE # 718

On Sat, 29 Jan 2000 16:14:53 -0500 Jeff Davis <jeff@n9avg.org> writes:
>Quoting Scott E. Olitsky (solitsky@acsu.buffalo.edu) [000129 16:06]:
>> With this in mind...how do you send "@" when you want to send an
>email
>> address in cw?
>
>I always just use "at" but there is no telling. I was just reading a
>very FB article in the latest QRPP (by Jack Wagoner, WB8FSV) that
>listed
>all kinds of rarely used CW characters... like dollar sign \$ (dit dit
>dit dah dit dit dah) and more.
>
>If it is EVER 3am and somebody sends that to me I'm pulling the big
>plug
>and going QRT without so much as a goodbye! hi hi
>
>--
>72 de Jeff, N9AVG
>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:51:12 -0500 (EST)
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
To: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61605] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.10001291747270.24406-100000@moe.cas.utk.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

The nice thing about using R for a CW decimal point is that it does not derive from an abbreviation of the symbol we use. Remember that in Europe, the comma commonly functions as the period does for the decimal divider, and R let's each receiving operator write down the correct character for his/her local situation. (Of course, the decimal indicator remains a pain to programmers, especially in programs where gobs of data containing decimals are separated only by a single character, often a comma in the US.)

-73-

LB, W4RNL

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 16:58:11 -0600
From: "Steve Yates, AA5TB" <aa5tb@swbell.net>
To: jbhenson@zebra.net, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61606] Re: Antennas - Small Transmitting Loops
Message-ID: <001301bf6aac\$51f086a0\$0c28bcd0@aa5tb>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Jay,

Thanks for your post. It's always good to hear from other people who have actually used these antennas and not simply theorized to why they shouldn't

work :-)

I've been experimenting with small transmitting loops for over tens years and my results generally agree with yours except that I can routinely get at least a 3:1 frequency range coverage with them with no adjustment other than the tuning capacitor.

I have a small program available on my small transmitting loop Web page that has worked well for me and appears to agree well with others. It is at:

<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb/loop.html>

I have some limits designed into to make sure the loop is within the classical size of a "small" loop. The efficiency of course increases with size but the sometimes desirable broadside null starts to fill in when the loop circumference increases much above 1/10 wavelength. I will probably remove the limits since the usual desire is simply to radiate efficiently.

I have yet to read Hart's book (never heard of him when I started messing with loops) but the efficiency formula for an antenna has been well known.

Also, this is not referring to your post Jay but the loop's efficiency is irrelevant to the coaxial impedance contrary to what some of the earlier post may have implied. Any loss in the feedline will simply add directly to the antenna's losses but doesn't change the antenna's losses. Some sort of impedance matching between the antenna and feedline are assumed of course.

73,

Steve Yates - AA5TB

Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs

<http://home.swbell.net/aa5tb>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 15:59:19 -0700 (MST)

From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [61607] PROP: Noisy weekend on planet Earth

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10001281651050.18356-100000@shell.rt66.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I began this friday afternoon, and due to leaving town for a family matter, was not able to get back on email until now. Sorry it ended up getting posted kinda late.

Gang,

SOLAR ACTIVITY is very low. Solar flux is only 126, or pretty low levels for a so-called active sun :- (This means poor ionization and thus poor propagation on the higher bands until the solar flux starts up. We're about at our 28-day solar minimum so the flux should start back up in the next few days. 10M will likely be difficult, but 15M should sport good propagation.

MINOR TO MAJOR GEOMAGNETIC STORMING has been in progress since late Thursday, with the K-index (updated every 3 hours) bouncing between K=3 (active to minor storm) to K=5 (Major storm) levels.

UPDATE: K=3 has persisted all day Saturday as I write this around 1800Z 1-29-00, or active to minor storm levels. The estimated A-index is 25 from the WWV report.

This all started Thursday with a sudden change in the interplanetary magnetic field, that is, the magnetic field from our sun that stretches out beyond our solar system (the exact end of the sun's "magnetosphere" is not known). The sun's magnetic field lines leave the sun's S pole and re-enter at the N pole in a toroid pattern. Thus, the field lines run through and past the earth from our S pole towards the N pole, and the intensity is measured in nanoTesla's, or nT. The magnetic field direction and strength is measured constantly by the GEOS spacecrafts. Thursday, there was a sudden change in the sun's magnetic field strength from <100nT to over 200nT, a rare event, plus the direction of the field lines shifted southward from its normal northward direction. This change obviously was more than sufficient to wiggle (disturb) our own magnetic field to trigger geomagnetic storming.

To see this in graphical form, goto:
www.sec.noaa.gov/today.html

And scroll down past the X-ray plot to the satellite environment plots. There you will see the plots for PROTON FLUX, ELECTRON FLUX, Hp (the north-south interplanetary field intensity) and the K-indexes for the past 3 days. The K-index and Hp are especially impressive.

A major disturbance on the sun, such as a flare, that disturbs the earth also generates lots of X-ray emissions, electron flux and in the stronger cases, protons. Since the proton and electron plots are fairly stable, this means the geomagnetic storming we're experiencing is NOT associated with a solar disturbance, at least a solar flare type of disturbance. This is more indicative of a large burst of solar wind from a coronal hole. This is further supported by spacecraft monitors of the solar wind that shows an elevated solar wind velocity, but a uneventful

increase in the particle density of the solar wind. This is also classic of the effects of a coronal hole.

The above serves one example on how to interpret the charts and graphs from the above cited NOAA "Space Weather" page.

A nice place to see charts of the solar wind SPEED and DENSITY is at www.dxlc.com, clicking over to the solar stuff. Charts of the daily solar flux and A-index over the past 3 months is also on this site.

It's not the end of the world ... just a noisy weekend to be expected on the lower HF bands, but nothing to keep QSO's from happening. I'm explaining this since the sun's interplanetary magnetic field took the biggest "hiccup" I've seen yet during this active sun, and a perfect example of how a fairly severe, long lasting (3-4 days) geomagnetic storm can be triggered by something OTHER than solar flares. The sun is otherwise fairly quiet right now, yet we have a geomagnetic storm in progress. And this is why, for those of you so interested.

Without satellites, this weekend of geomagnetic storming and active conditions would have been unexplained in previous solar cycles, as nothing visible on the solar surface occurred to explain it.

There are other factors keeping our magnetic field disturbed as well, as described in Friday's Solar-Geomagnetic Report.

72, Paul NA5N

> JOINT USAF/NOAA REPORT OF SOLAR AND GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY
> SDF NUMBER 028 ISSUED AT 2200Z ON 28 JAN 2000

> IA. ANALYSIS OF SOLAR ACTIVE REGIONS AND ACTIVITY FROM 27/2100Z
> TO 28/2100Z: SOLAR ACTIVITY WAS LOW. THERE WERE TWO C-CLASS FLARES
> DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS.

In other words, pretty boring and uneventful

> IB. SOLAR ACTIVITY FORECAST: SOLAR ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO BE LOW.

> IIA. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM 27/2100Z TO 28/2100Z:
> THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD RANGED FROM UNSETTLED TO MAJOR STORM LEVELS.
> MOSTLY ACTIVE LEVELS HAVE DOMINATED THE MAJORITY OF THE PAST 24
> HOURS, BUT A PERIOD OF MINOR TO MAJOR STORM LEVELS OCCURRED BETWEEN
> 0000-0300 UT AND A PERIOD OF MINOR STORM LEVELS OCCURRED BETWEEN
> 1200-1500 UT. TODAY'S SOLAR WIND OBSERVATIONS INDICATED THE ONSET OF
> HIGH SPEED, LOW DENSITY CORONAL HOLE CONDITIONS AROUND 28/0000UT:

> SPEEDS LEVELED TO 700-800 KM/S AND THE DENSITY FELL STEADILY DURING
> THE UT DAY WITH INITIAL VALUES OF 10 P/CC DECLINING TO 1-2 P/CC BY
> THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD.

This does not address thursday's 200+nT "glitch" in the Hp.

> IIB. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY FORECAST: THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD IS
> EXPECTED TO BE MOSTLY ACTIVE FOR THE NEXT 24 HOURS, AND IS EXPECTED
> TO BE UNSETTLED TO ACTIVE FOR THE SECOND AND THIRD DAYS. THE
> ENHANCED LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED DUE TO CONTINUING CORONAL
> HOLE EFFECTS.

> PCAF GREEN

Since this disturbance is not related to a solar disturbance, there were no protons smacking the earth, and thus nothing to cause a Polar Cap Absorption (PCA) event. You're in the clear, Larsen AL7FS :-)

> IV. PENTICTON 10.7 CM FLUX
> OBSERVED 28 JAN 126
> PREDICTED 29 JAN-31 JAN 125/125/125
> 90 DAY MEAN 28 JAN 174

> V. GEOMAGNETIC A INDICES
> OBSERVED AFR/AP 27 JAN 010/012
> ESTIMATED AFR/AP 28 JAN 025/025
> PREDICTED AFR/AP 29 JAN-31 JAN 020/020-015/025-015/020
 ^^^ ^^^ ^^^
 SAT SUN MON

Thus, ACTIVE to MINOR storm levels can be expected over the weekend in North America, with slightly worse conditions in the higher latitudes, like Alaska and northern Canada.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 22:46:13 +0000
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61608] OCF Wires (again)
Message-ID: <20000129.230732.-148361.1.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have to add to Joe, W2KJ's post on the Off-Center-Fed wires.

I use one on 20 and one on 15 Meters here. If you are putting one up that's less than 2-waves lnog, the 4:1 balun is not really needed. I feed the 20 Meter wire with RG-8X and the 15 Meter wire with a 1-wave section of RG-59, and then to tha shack (from the remote switch) with 3/4" Heliax.

For the portable 6 Meter gain antenna, one could use the 4-wave OCF wire per QST and feed it with a 1-wave or 2-wave length of open-wire or ladder line)allowing for the velocity factor) and then connect the 4:1 balun to transform to coax. Seeing that the OCF's are a single-band antenna, you could even use a 4:1 coax or sleeve balun at the end of the balanced line. As much as I dislike balanced lines, this IS an application where they work well. The lower weight of the balnced line section makes keeping the OCF wire straighter and reduces the load on the wire.

For your OCF antenna, overall length is equal to $(984 * (n-.025))/F$ (MHz). "n" equals the length in wavelengths and the dimensions are in feet. Feed 1/4-wave from one end, or $234/F$ (MHz) in feet.

If you tilt the antenna down from the feedpoint, there's some (slight) directivity off the long end. If it's horizontal and fairly flat, the directivity looks like a flattened 4-leaf clover, or crossed propellors. Check the Antenna Book for the angles invloved.

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp
VP & FD'00 Chairman, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub
My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!
Replies off-list to: wb2vuo@arrl.net

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 16:06:26 -0700
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>
To: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61609] Re: Headphones & Hearing Aids

Message-ID: <20000129160626.E2128@bob.localnet>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Thanks for the reply, George (I was the one who asked). Actually I can hear fine with headphones now, so that should work. Actually my right ear seems to have a narrow passband which is just about right for the cw note and sidetone and nicely filters out much of the off-frequency stuff. I expect that it is really some sort of evolutionary adaptation to improve my code proficiency.

I pick up the hearing aid this week (for the price of a pretty good transceiver!)

73, Bob

On Sat, Jan 29, 2000 at 01:42:00AM -0500, George Gingell wrote:

> There was a Question about the best headphones for use with hearing aids
> on here tonight.

>

> I have had these stereo code practice oscillators in my head for several
> years now and I find that it is best to just take them out when I put on
> the headphones. Otherwise I have to at least turn them off when using the
> phones. With them off, it is like having 20db attenuators in the ears.

>

> While there is no proof, my XYL claims that my hearing loss is from too
> much ham radio. Actually, there may be some truth to the matter. I used to
> spend a lot of time on CW with headphones on constantly. Contests and Nets
> every day and many weekends. A strong case for Audio Limiting Devices in
> the rig and/or cord to the headset. (Back to back diodes if nothing else)
> Ain't hindsight wonderful? That QRO station that just fired up on you
> while you were trying to dig out the QRP Beacon is just one example.

>

> So, comfort is not the only consideration with headsets. Not hearing takes
> all the fun out of the hobby. Just a thought..

>

>

>

> Sir George, The First :^)

>

> 72 ES

> QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net

> QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.

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> Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789

> Maryland Milliwatt Club Founder and Trustee of Club Station - WQ3RP -

> Grid Square FM19mb 76.94 W - 39.06 N Silver Spring, MD 20904 QRPea.A.
>

--

Bob Nielsen, N7XY (ex-W6SWE) (RN2) nielsen@primenet.com
Tucson, AZ DM42nh QRP-L #1985 http://www.primenet.com/~nielsen

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 18:13:09 EST
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61610] FS: MFJ Tuner
Message-ID: <6d.d3e4d0.25c4ce05@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Got this in a package deal, don't need it. Any bites?

MFJ 945 Versa Tuner II
Balanced, un-balanced, single-wire
Good to 300W
SWR meter, 2 ranges, 30 and 300 watts
Matches Ten-Tec 505, 509 Argonaut!
Instruction sheets (all 2 of them)
Extremely good condition
\$40 shipped to you

Or, I'll just put it back on the storage shelf next to my paint tray where it
has been sitting for a while.

72

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 16:01:40 -0500
From: Joe Mikuckis <k3chp@erols.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [61611] 6 Meters
Message-ID: <38935534.5A82@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Recently I got into 6 meters again, first with Ten Tec transverter and a vertical "Q-Stick." The trouble is that the transverter output is 8 watts - which is not exactly QRP! Anyway, it brought back the memories when I operated 6 meters from Baltimore back during 1958-1960 with Gonset Communicator III and a Halo antenna. To make a long story short, I aquired Communicator III, got it to work, and to my delight found out that the output is below 5 watts (actually 3.8 watts). It turned out that there is considerable local (and nationwide) 6 meter AM activity on 50.400 MHz. So, now I'm having lots of AM 6-meter QRP fun!

Come to think of it, my actual introduction to QRP was via 6 meters. During 1960 I designed a solid-state 6-meter transceiver using several International Crystal modules and discrete components. RCA came out with a high frequency "drift" transistor suitable for 50 MHz which I used as a final amplifier stage. The input power was 80 milliwatts! The unit was crystal-controlled and operated in AM mode. It worked. I made lots of local and semi-local contacls using a 3-element Hilltopper beam. Best DX from Baltimore (Essex) was Fort Belvoir, VA and Aberdeen, MD. I saved my log books.

73 de Joe, K3CHP
Riverdale, MD

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:39:12 -0600
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: <aturner13@mindspring.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [61612] Re: Denoting fractional power with cw
Message-ID: <000d01bf6ab2\$0d10f000\$9e2ab4d0@tcac.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

That's a good question. I usta say "1R5" watts for my little 30 meter Ugly Weekender, but I got the feeling that a lot of folks didn't get the idea. So I went to 1.5 ...

For less that 1 watt, I always give intergal milliwatts.

72,

Nick, WA5BDU

----- Original Message -----

From: "Alex" <aturner13@mindspring.com>

> What is the accepted way to send ur power out to the other
> station when it
> is in fractions of watts. How would you send 1.5 watts and
> say 250mw. I
> guess my question is really how to denote the decimal
> point.
>
> Alex,N4BYJ
>
>

Date: Sat, 29 Jan 2000 17:54:42 -0600
From: "Richard Matthews" <prm@hiwaay.net>
To: <ekdave@earthlink.net>, "q" <qrp-1@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [61613] Re: Edsyn Soldering Station on sale at www.radioshack.com
Message-ID: <004501bf6ab4\$39f0c080\$6f85150c@scottsboro.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You guys make it rough on a fellow. I have been thinking that if I am to
build a K2, I'll need one of those new temp controlled soldering stations .
. I just ordered the Edsyn.

Thanks to all of you who answered my question about the K2 . All were good
suggestions. I guess the best was that I should order the basic K2, with a
noise blanker, get it working on CW correctly and then add on the options
that I want later. I was impressed when one ham said the K2 was the best rig
he has ever owned and that he had owned a bunch.

Problem is, I really like my Small Wonders DSW rigs and would hate to part
with either of them. Maybe I can keep them for trips that I wouldn't want to
take the K2 on yeah that's it.

I haven't ordered the K2 yet, I've got to get my story for the XYL straight
first. how's this? "I deserve one, I haven't had a new all band HF rig in
over twenty years"

"best rig I ever owned", That's saying a lot.

73

Richard ,WA4NWW

you wrote:

> There's an Edsyn soldering station priced at half off in the
radioshack.com
> ad I just got in the mail. It's the 951SX and it's a
temperature-controlled
> unit priced at \$74.50 (\$149 regular price). I recall this (or one similar)
> being somewhat popular a while back with list members. It's radioshack.com
> product number is 910-1901.

End of QRP-L Digest 1715

